State of Vermont Executive Department A Proclamation

WHEREAS, one of our nation's oldest and most cherished traditions, Thanksgiving Day brings us closer to our loved ones and invites us to reflect on the blessings that enrich our lives; and

WHEREAS, though our traditions have evolved, the spirit of grace and humility at the heart of Thanksgiving has persisted through every chapter of our story; and

WHEREAS, in times of adversity and times of plenty, we have lifted our hearts by giving humble thanks for the blessings we have received and for those who bring meaning to our lives; and

WHEREAS, as we gather in our communities and in our homes, around the table or near the hearth, we give thanks for the many kindnesses and comforts that grace our lives. We must pause to remember those men and women of our military stationed in harm's way to protect our freedom; and

WHEREAS, in addition to giving thanks, Thanksgiving is a time to give back to our communities and to those less fortunate, to be generous with our time and compassionate with our neighbors in need;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim November 22, 2012 as



FREEDOM S. WITTY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 16th day of November, A.D. 2012.

Peter Shumlin Governor